

# **FISCAL NOTE**

## **HB 251 - SB 856**

February 7, 2001

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Authorizes the Commissioner of Education to make up to four grants, not to exceed \$25,000 for a pilot summer reading program for first through sixth grade students who live in counties or portions of urban areas where at least 50% of the student population receive free or reduced price school meals. The University of Tennessee and the State Board of Regents systems shall be offered one urban and one rural grant each, subject to a match by the college or university which operates the program. The higher education institutions and the Commissioner of Education are encouraged to seek grants from the federal Americorps program as well as other available federal or private funds, and to encourage the involvement of volunteers.

All pilot programs shall be modeled on the *Energy Express program in West Virginia*, a six-week summer program promoting the school success of children living in rural and low-income communities by:

1. Providing summer learning experiences focused on reading;
2. Serving two nutritious family-style meals each day;
3. Engaging college students in community service as mentors; and
4. Developing strong partnerships involving parents, schools, communities and state agencies and organizations.

The grants under this program shall be for one year and the institutions shall report on their operations at the request of the commissioner, who shall present findings to the General Assembly by February 1st following completion of the pilot programs.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$100,000 One-Time**

**Other Fiscal Impact - Increase Federal Expenditures - \$100,000 One-Time**

Estimate assumes:

- four pilot programs would each receive a \$25,000 grant which would be matched by the higher education institution operating the program of \$25,000 each, making a total contribution of \$50,000 to each of the four schools (\$200,000).
- grants to LEAs of \$50,000 for each of the four schools (\$200,000) will be utilized for the programs.
- the coordinating college or university would absorb any costs associated with implementing such a program.
- total expenditures to state government will be less to the extent any federal funds are obtained to assist in providing grants for these programs.
- assumes the coordinating college or university will utilize federal funds for their part of the match for these four grants.

### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

**HB 251 - SB 856**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James A. Davenport". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

James A. Davenport, Executive Director